



ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING O'NEILL ROOM
4/17/19 7:30 PM

ATTENDEES:

Gibian*	White		Kellar*	McKenna*
	Wallach*	Harmer*	Tosti*	
Ellis*	Foskett*	Deyst	Duvadie*	
	Beck*	Jones*	Deshler*	
Franclemont*	Howard*	LaCourt*	Carman*	Diggins*

*Indicates present

VISITORS: None

1. MINUTES of 3/27/19 already approved.

The Chair stated that for various reasons to be explained, 4 articles need to be revoted.

2. ART 56 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING: The expected FY20 salary increases for the 2 Police unions that have not settled must be included in this appropriation.

VOTED \$337,624 Unanimous.

3. ART 67 WATER BODIES: The Warrant Article requested \$50k. At the hearing the proponents requested \$60k. This is beyond the scope of the article. The water bodies fund has sufficient reserves.

VOTED \$50k Unanimous

4. ART 72 OVERLAY RESERVE: The Town Manager has recommended an additional much larger transfer, \$2.5m, based on a review of the size of the reserve. This is enough to contribute to postponing the need for an override for an additional year. The vote on 3/11 was for \$200k that is in line with previous years.

VOTED that a transfer of \$200k be used when setting the tax rate (as voted on 3/11) and a transfer of \$2.5m be added to the Fiscal Stability Fund. Unanimous

5. ART 77 FISCAL STABILITY FUND: The Chair proposed a contingent vote

a. If the override does not pass, \$2,475,490 be withdrawn from the Fund and used to set the tax rate. and,

b. If the \$5.5m override does pass, \$2,174,510 be added to the fund. The rest of the override, \$850k, would support the SB promises: \$50k COA Transportation, \$600k Schools, \$200k DPW. These funds would be attached to the 3 budgets "contingent on passing the override".

Members expressed concern that spending override money in this way will increase the structural deficit.

Amendment: If any of the contingency appropriations fails, the corresponding funds shall be deposited in the Fiscal Stability Fund.

The Chair promised to make this happen should any of the contingencies not be approved by Town Meeting.

Members expressed concern that the use of the contingency funds is not sufficiently detailed.

VOTED to approve the contingency budgets as presented above. 14-1

6. Shall the FinCom support the SB override plan? The Chair stated that the SB was almost sure to approve, 5 to 0, the plan discussed above and has asked for FinCom support. A lengthy discussion followed. Members offered opinions, both pro and con as well as general FinCom process. See summary below.

Pro:

A large volunteer campaign effort has begun for both debt exclusion and override. It is more efficient to combine these efforts than to have separate elections.

It is more honest to show all the needs than to concentrate on just one.

Schools need more money for social workers, nurses, and libraries.

The debt exclusion & the override will be separate independent questions.

The FinCom has provided support on previous overrides.

Con:

There is no urgent need for an override now.

The plan will worsen the structural deficit.

Future overrides will be larger.

The plan will risk voter approval of a new AHS, an urgent need.

General:

The FinCom does influence policy, for example Ice & Snow, ACAC, Water Bodies.

The FinCom is authorized by bylaw to recommend action on Town affairs.

This is a political question that is not appropriate for an appointed FinCom involvement.

VOTED to support the SB's plan. 8 yes, 7 no.

7. The printed FinCom Report will be available on the 1st night of Town Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Peter Howard 4/18/19

Revised 4/20/19

Ref 1 Appendix C Budget Summary w/o Override

Ref 2 Appendix C Budget Summary w/ Override

Ref 1

APPENDIX C **Summary of Finance Committee Recommendations** **Fiscal Year 2020 - Without Override**

REVENUES

PROPERTY TAX DETAIL

	113,696,347
+2.5%	2,842,409
New growth	650,000
Debt exclusions	5,434,563
Symmes debt exclusion (net of receipts)	0
less MSBA receipts	(476,523)
MWRA debt	5,593,112
2019 Override	0
TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	127,739,908

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AID (MSBA)

Bishop	0
Brackett	0
Hardy	0
Peirce	476,523
TOTAL EXEMPT RECEIPTS	476,523
Ottoson (non-exempt)	0
TOTAL EXEMPT RECEIPTS	476,523

LOCAL RECEIPTS DETAIL

Motor vehicle excise	5,051,000
Other excise - hotel	325,000
Other excise - meals	400,000
Penalties & interest	355,000
Payments in lieu of taxes	18,000
Fees	935,000
Rentals	373,000
Dept revenue - schools	100,000
Dept revenue - libraries	49,000
Dept revenue - cemeteries	265,000
Dept revenue - recreation	0
Other departmental revenue	200,000
Licenses and permits	1,705,000
Special assessments	0
Fines and forfeits	30,000
Investment income	65,000
Medicare Part D	0
TOTAL LOCAL RECEIPTS	9,871,000

LOCAL AID ("CHERRY SHEET") DETAIL

RECEIPTS	
Education	
Chapter 70	13,979,327
Charter Tuition Assessment Reimbursement	14,364
Offset Receipts	
School Lunch Assistance	0
School Choice Receiving Tuition	0
Total Education	13,993,691
General Government	
Additional Assistance	0
Total unrestricted gen'l gov't	8,056,055
Annual Formula Local Aid	0
Veterans' Benefits	206,676
Exemptions: Vets, blind, Elderly, etc.	125,356
Offset Receipts	
Public Libraries	57,924
Total General Government	8,446,011
Total Estimated Receipts	22,439,702
Ch 70 add from SFSF	0
School Construction (MSBA)	476,523
Local Aid Receipts inc MSBA	22,916,225
ASSESSMENTS	
State Assessments and Charges	
Retired Employee's Health Insurance	0
Air Pollution Districts	17,772
Metropolitan Area Planning Council	23,998
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	33,480
Total Assess. & Charges	75,250
Transportation Authorities	
MBTA	3,045,228
Boston Metro. Transit District	727
Total MBTA Assessment	3,045,955
Annual Charges Against Receipts	
Special Education	16,279
Total Annual Charges	16,279
Tuition Assessments	
School Choice Sending Tuition	61,860
Charter School Sending Tuition	203,873
Total Tuition Assessments	265,733
Total Estimated Charges	3,403,217
NET LOCAL AID	19,036,485

APPROPRIATIONS

BUDGETS (Article 57)

Town Manager	
3 Town Manager	679,489
4 Human Resources	346,440
5 Information Technology	910,503
6 Comptroller	340,598
7 Treasurer-Collector	729,963
9 Board of Assessors	331,971
10 Legal	497,804
14 Planning & Community Development	556,049
15 Redevelopment Board	10,800
17 a. Public Works Administration	226,536
17 b. Engineering	221,100
17 c. Cemeteries	269,395
17 d. Natural Resources & Field Maintenance	1,757,402
17 e. Sanitation/Highway Division (inc snow & ice)	6,821,123
17 f. Motor Equipment Repair	448,891
17 g. Street lighting, traffic signals	220,000
18 Facilities	752,512
19 Police Services	8,240,568
20 Fire Services	7,656,642
21 Inspections	520,242
23 Libraries	2,497,918
24 a. Health and Human Services Administration	683,770
24 b. Veterans' Services	380,218
24 c. Council on Aging	324,610
Total Town Manager	35,424,544
Select Board	
2 a. Administration and Licensing	284,034
2 c. Printing Town Reports **	0
2 d. Accounting and Auditing	78,000
13 Parking	59,019
16 Zoning Board of Appeals	34,491
Total Select Board	455,544
Town Clerk	
11 Town Clerk	277,135
12 Board of Registrars	72,108
Total Town Clerk	349,243
Retirement	
25 a. Contributory Pensions	11,337,478
25 b. Non-Contributory Pensions	18,468
Total Pensions	11,355,946
Fixed Budgets	
26 Insurance	17,891,836
8 Postage	187,691
2 b. Elections and Town Meeting	118,726
27 Reserve Fund	1,604,584
Total Fixed Budgets	19,802,837
21 Finance Committee	10,650
22 Education *	70,827,139
TOTAL BUDGETS (Art 57)	138,225,903

WARRANT ARTICLES

TOTAL BUDGETS	
Total Budgets (Article 57)	138,225,903
Capital Budget (Article 58)	13,196,044
OTHER WARRANT ARTICLES	
55 Positions reclassification	11,360
56 Collective Bargaining	337,624
63 Minuteman Regional School	5,384,690
64 Arlington Historical Commission	2,660
64 Historic District Commissions	5,100
64 Capital Planning Committee	0
64 Disabilities Commission	25,000
64 Recycling Committee	3,000
64 Human Rights Commission	7,500
64 LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission	4,000
64 Tourism & Econ. Development	4,275
64 Envision Arlington (was Vision 2020)	3,000
64 Transportation Advisory	2,000
64 Scenic Byway	2,000
64 Arlington Commission on Arts & Culture	35,000
64 Open Space Committee	300
65 Town Day	5,000
65 Flags on graves of veterans	4,500
65 Veteran's, Mem., Patriot's Day	5,667
66 Indemnification, medical costs	10,821
66 Legal defense fund	0
67 Water bodies (Cons Comm)	50,000
69 "Harry Barber" Community Service program	7,500
71 Retiree health insurance (OPEB)	936,982
75 Cannabis mitigation fund	1
76 Long term stabilization fund	100,000
S3 Future zoning bylaw amendments	70,000
S5 Design/build guidelines	50,000
S6 Mugar legal defense	25,000
TOTAL OTHER ARTICLES	7,092,980
TOTAL WARRANT ARTICLES	158,514,927

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

A. WATER & SEWER

Budget	5,065,387
Capital	2,239,399
Assessment	14,342,325
Indirect charges	699,376
Total expenses	22,346,487
Total revenues	22,346,487
Net surplus (deficit)	0

B. RECREATION

Budget	1,885,697
Capital	0
Total expenses	1,885,697
Total revenues	1,885,697
Net surplus (deficit)	0

C. ED BURNS ARENA

Budget	555,044
Capital	101,278
Total expenses	656,322
Total revenues	656,322
Net surplus (deficit)	0

D. COUNCIL ON AGING TRANSPORTATION

Budget	92,907
Total revenues	92,907
From general fund	0
Net surplus (deficit)	0

E. ARLINGTON YOUTH COUNCILING SVCS

Budget	740,358
Total revenues	620,358
From general fund	120,000
Net surplus (deficit)	0

ENTERPRISE FUND SUMMARY

Budget	8,339,393
Capital	2,340,677
Assessment	14,342,325
Indirect charges	699,376
Total expenses	25,721,771
Total revenues	25,601,771
Total from general fund	120,000
Net surplus (deficit)	0

SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF 2020 REVENUES

Property Tax Levy (n/l Symmes)	127,739,908
Local Aid Receipts n/l MSBA	22,439,702
School Construction Aid (MSBA)	476,523
Local Receipts	9,871,000
Overlay reserve surplus (Art 72)	2,700,000
Override stab. fund (Article 77)	2,475,490
Health Claims Trust Fund	300,000
Use of free cash (Art 74)	5,559,782
TOTAL OF 2020 REVENUES	171,562,405

SUMMARY OF 2020 EXPENDITURES

Town budgets (Article 57)	67,398,764
School budget (Article 57)	70,827,139
Capital plan (Article 58)	13,196,044
Warrant articles	1,708,290
Minuteman Regional School	5,384,690
Enterprise Funds	120,000
MWRA debt service	5,593,112
MBTA assessment	3,045,955
Educ. & Library offset receipts	57,924
Charter/choice tuitions	265,733
Other state assessments	91,529
Reserve for court judgements	100,000
Symmes urban renewal	673,225
Snow & ice deficit	0
Overlay reserve	600,000
Overlay reserve surplus (Art 72)	2,500,000
Override stab. fund (Article 77)	0
TOTAL OF 2020 EXPENDITURE	171,562,405

2020 REVENUES LESS EXPENDITURES

	0
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Ref 2

APPENDIX C **Summary of Finance Committee Recommendations** **Fiscal Year 2020 - With \$5,500,000 Override**

REVENUES

PROPERTY TAX DETAIL

FY 2018 levy limit	113,696,347
+2.5%	2,842,409
New growth	650,000
Debt exclusions	5,434,563
Symmes debt exclusion (net of receipts)	0
less MSBA receipts	(476,523)
MWRA debt	5,593,112
2019 Override	5,500,000
TOTAL PROPERTY TAX	133,239,908

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AID (MSBA)

Bishop	0
Brackett	0
Hardy	0
Peirce	476,523
TOTAL EXEMPT RECEIPTS	476,523
Ottoson (non-exempt)	0
TOTAL EXEMPT RECEIPTS	476,523

LOCAL RECEIPTS DETAIL

Motor vehicle excise	5,051,000
Other excise - hotel	325,000
Other excise - meals	400,000
Penalties & interest	355,000
Payments in lieu of taxes	18,000
Fees	935,000
Rentals	373,000
Dept revenue - schools	100,000
Dept revenue - libraries	49,000
Dept revenue - cemeteries	265,000
Dept revenue - recreation	0
Other departmental revenue	200,000
Licenses and permits	1,705,000
Special assessments	0
Fines and forfeits	30,000
Investment income	65,000
Medicare Part D	0
TOTAL LOCAL RECEIPTS	9,871,000

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2020 REVENUES LESS EXPENDITURES

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